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Mr. Stearns exhibited specimens of *Haliotis* from Monterey, which he had received from Dr. Canfield, of that place. The peculiarity of the specimens consisted in their being *hybrids*—a cross between the two species known to conchologists as *H. Cracherodii* and *H. rufescens.* In this connection Mr. S. made some general remarks upon the *Haliotidæ.* Dr. Cooper followed Mr. Stearns, and remarked upon the geographical distribution of this genus of mollusca.

A paper was read by Dr. W. P. Gibbons, of Alameda, in which he resumed the subject of the extinct forest of redwood on the Coast Range, near San Antonio. He directed attention to the fact that some of those stumps indicated a method of growth different from ordinary forest trees. Their immense size was due, in some cases, to the fact that three or four trees, growing in proximity, would ultimately impinge on each other, and if supplied with sufficient nourishment, they would grow together and form one immense trunk. This theory was verified by the statements of Dr. Kellogg and Mr. Bolander, who mentioned the fact that near Searsville several redwood trunks had grown together, and for forty feet formed a solid tree. There is no dependence in estimating the age of such trees in any other way than by carefully counting the number of concentric growths from a centre. The oldest of these redwoods is about 1,500 years of age. The *gigantea* of Calaveras is about the same age. These redwoods are evidently the second generation of the race; hence we may infer that 3,000 years, at least, have passed by since the present growth first commenced on the Coast Range. But long before this must vegetation have covered portions of these hills, as the *Sequoia* reposes in a bed of alluvium twenty or thirty feet in depth. He also referred to the bulbous expansion of these trees near the base. These are composed of large expanding roots, growing together, and forming a complete network. The height of this indicates the degree of denudation which the soil has undergone during the lifetime of the tree. This is about five feet in 1,500 years. Some of these trunks have from 10,000 to 14,000 buds, partially developed, around their base, each bud having the power, under favorable conditions, of being developed and containing a perfect tree. The mass of wood contained in a tree twenty-five feet in diameter is equal to 40,000 cubic feet, weighing over 2,500,000 pounds.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

A Manual of the Botany of the Northern United States. By Prof. Asa Gray. 8vo, 1867.

Epitome of Elocution. By B. W. Atwell. Providence, 1867. 12mo.

The American Bee Journal, Vol. I. Vol. III, No. 5, November, 1867.